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BOROUGH OF GODALMING

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR

1937

TOGETHER WITH

THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector.



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ANNUAL REPORT

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Medical Officer of Health

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SANITARY INSPECTOR

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**The Mayor and Corporation of the
Borough of Godalming.**

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my fourth report as your Medical Officer of Health. 1937 was definitely an extremely healthy year, the incidence of infectious disease being exceptionally low, especially as regards notifiable disease.

The death rate showed a still further fall upon that of last year, which is extremely satisfactory. The birth rate remains the same, however.

Diphtheria immunisation by the Officers of the Surrey County Council was continued.

No factor adversely affecting the health of the town was apparent during the year and Godalming can definitely be regarded as an extremely healthy place to live in.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

F. A. BELAM, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

GODALMING,

June, 1938.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health:

F. A. BELAM, M.D., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:

P. A. WARNER, C.R.SAN., I., M.S.I.ASSN.

(Mr. Warner also holds offices of Petroleum Inspector and Shops Acts Inspector. He has the Meat Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute).

Clerk:

I. C. WILLIAMS.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (acres), 2,370.

Population (Registrar General's estimate, mid-year 1937):
12,980. Comparable factor .88.

In place of giving an adjusted population for statistical purposes this year the Registrar General has supplied a factor by which the crude death rate must be multiplied to bring it into consonance with the death rate of other towns. This factor is used in this connection in the table.

Number of inhabited houses (1st April, 1937), according to the rate books: 3,732.

Rateable value (1st April, 1937), £113,901.

Sum represented by a penny^d rate: £441.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

Live Births—	Total	M.	F.	
Total	202	116	86	} Birth Rate per 1,000 of the est- imated resident population 15.5
Legitimate	196	114	82	
Illegitimate	6	2	4	
Still Births	3	2	1	} Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births) 14.6
Deaths	156	80	76	
Deaths from puerperal causes:				} Death Rate per 1,000 of the esti- mated resident population 12.01 (9.96 corrected).
Puerperal Sepsis	None			
Other Puerperal Causes	1			
Total	1			
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :				
All infants per 1,000 live births				34.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				35.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)				26
Deaths from Measles (all ages)				Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)				Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)				Nil

The population shows a further slight increase, and is now very nearly 13,000. The birth rate remains exactly the same as that of 1936 (15.5). As compared to that of the country as a whole, it is well above it, the rate being 14.9. It is also slightly above that for the 148 smaller towns (15.3).

• There were two more births than last year, and it is satisfactory to note that the infantile mortality is considerably lower, only seven such deaths being recorded, as against eleven in 1936. Of these deaths, three were due to congenital debility and one each to digestive trouble, pneumonia, bronchitis and other respiratory diseases. Ages of these infants at death were 20 minutes, 1 hour, 2 days, 1 month, 7 weeks, 3 months and 5 months.

The general death rate using the comparability factor is only 9.9, which is very satisfactory indeed, and under the rate of 1936. As usual the majority of deaths were due to heart disease; cancer came next and other diseases did not contribute large numbers.

Of the 156 deaths more than half were in persons over 65.

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY IN THE YEAR 1937.
England and Wales, 125 County Boroughs and Great Towns, and 148 Smaller Towns.
Provisional Figures.

	RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.								RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.		
	Live Births	Still-births	All Causes.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years.	Total Deaths under One Year.
England and Wales	14.9	0.60	12.4	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.07	0.45	0.54	5.8	58
125 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	14.9	0.67	12.5	0.01	0.00		0.01	0.04	0.08	0.39	0.45	7.9	62
148 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000).	15.3	0.64	11.9	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.42	0.42	3.2	55
London	13.3	0.54	12.3	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.06	0.05	0.38	0.51	12.0	60
Godalming	15.5	0.23	9.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.46	0.49	0.00	34

The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows: per 1,000 Total Births .. Puerperal Sepsis 0.94 Others 2.17 Total 3.11

Cause of Death.	1937. All Ages.				Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of residents whether occurring within or without the district.								
	M.	F.	Total	Sex	Under 1	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and over	
Diphtheria ... ..	...	1	1	F	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	3	3	6	M F	{ ... ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2 3
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	5	2	7	M F	{ ... ...	...	...	...	1 ...	.. 2	3 ...	1 ...
Other Tuberculosis ... ..	...	1	1	F	..	...	...	...	...	...	..	1
Syphilis	1	...	1	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Cancer	15	11	26	M F	{ ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	5 5	10 6
Diabetes ... ..	...	2	2	M F	{ ... ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage	1	4	5	M F	{ ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 3
Heart Disease	26	15	41	M F	{ ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	9 1	18* 14
Aneurism	1	...	1	M	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	1
Other Circulatory Disease	3	4	7	M F	{ ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3* 4
Bronchitis	1	7	8	M F	{ ... 1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Pneumonia	3	3	6	M F	{ 1 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Respiratory Disease	2	1	3	M F	{ 1 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 1*
Peptic Ulcer	2	...	2	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Appendicitis ... ..	...	1	1	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other Digestive Disease	2	1	3	M F	{ 1 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 1*
Nephritis	1	2	3	M F	{ ... ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Puerperal Disease (not Sepsis) ... ..	...	1	1	F	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Congenital Debility, etc.	1	2	3	M F	{ 1 2	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Senility	1	5	6	M F	{ ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 5
Suicide	1	1	2	M F	{ ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other Violence	4	3	7	M F	{ ... ...	...	...	2	...	2	2	...
Other Defined Disease	6	5	11	M F	{ ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	2 1	4 3
Ill-defined or not known ... ..	...	...	...		..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	80	76	155		7	1	1	2	3	10	39	97	

In each place on the table marked with a cross ("*") there is one death more found in local and transferred returns than is included in the figures supplied by the Registrar General.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

(a) **Laboratory Facilities.**—These remain unaltered, the Council paying for swabs sent by practitioners from necessitous cases living in the Borough for examination for diphtheria infection and for sputa examined for tubercle material is sent to the Pathological Laboratory at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, where the necessary forms, etc., for practitioners' use are available. During 1937, 25 sputa were examined for tubercle and one for other organisms; 72 swabs were examined for Diphtheria infection. Water samples are sent to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 91 Queen Victoria Street, London.

(b) **Ambulance Facilities.**—For non-infectious and accident cases the well-equipped motor ambulance of the Godalming Division of the British Red Cross Society is available and staffed by the members of the Division, the men leaving their work for the purpose. For infectious cases the ambulances of the Guildford and Godalming Joint Hospital Board are available.

(c) **Nursing in the Home.**—There are four midwives practising in Godalming, of whom three are affiliated to the Godalming Nursing and Child Welfare Association. The Council make an Annual Grant of £75 to this Association, which does excellent work.

The following indicates the work of the Nurses of this Association during 1937 :—

Number of District Cases	...	...	...	...	368
„ „ District Visits	...	...	...	...	4,936
„ „ Midwifery Cases	...	...	...	...	98
„ „ Maternity Cases(with Doctor)	...	...	...	...	26
„ „ Midwifery and Maternity Visits	...	...	...	...	2,584
„ „ Ante-Natal Visits	...	...	...	...	707
„ „ Almshouse Visits	...	...	...	...	52
„ „ Casual Visits	...	...	...	...	709

(d) **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**—The Surrey County Council Clinics are as follows:

AT CHURCH ROOM, GODALMING.

Maternity and Child Welfare—

Dental Clinic: 3rd Monday, 2—4 p.m.

Ante-Natal Clinics: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays,
10—12 noon.

Child Welfare Centre: Wednesdays and Fridays,
2—4 p.m.

School Treatment Centres—

General Medical Clinics: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.
9.30—10.30 a.m.

„ „ „ Every Friday, 9.30 a.m.

General Eye Clinic: Every 4th Thursday, 9.30 a.m.

Dental Clinics: 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Mondays, 10 a.m.
and 2 p.m.

„ „ Tuesdays, 2 p.m.

„ „ 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays,
10 a.m.—2 p.m.

AT MILFORD SANATORIUM

Tuberculosis Dispensary: 2nd and 4th Fridays, 2—4 p.m.

AT 49 FARNHAM ROAD, GUILDFORD.

Tuberculosis Dispensary: 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays.
10 a.m.—12 noon; 2nd and 4th
Wednesdays, 5.30—7 p.m.; Fri-
days, 10 a.m.—12 noon.

AT ROYAL SURREY COUNTY HOSPITAL, GUILDFORD.

Venereal Diseases—

Males: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays,
5—7 p.m.

Females: Mondays, 5—7 p.m.

(e) **Hospitals.**—

(1) The Royal Surrey County Hospital at Guildford offers 216 beds (194 general and 22 private).

General medical and surgical cases are treated at the above well-equipped voluntary hospital (224 in-patients and 513 out-patients in 1937 being Godalming residents) and also at the Surrey County Council Public Assistance Institution, Warren Road, Guildford, which also takes maternity cases.

The County Hospital will only accept complicated maternity cases requiring operation.

(2) **Maternity and Nursing Homes.**—There are two private homes in the Borough supervised by the County Council.

(3) **Infectious Diseases** are treated at the Woodbridge Hospital of the Guildford and Godalming Joint Hospital Board, and smallpox cases at the Hospital of the Surrey County Council at Clandon. Godalming is a member of the Board, and your Medical Officer of Health is its Medical Officer. The Annual Report for 1937 is here printed:—

ADMISSIONS TO HOSPITAL DURING 1937.

District	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Ery- sips	Typh- oid	Other	Total	Prop: per 1,000 popn.	Deaths.
Guildford M.B. ...	102	25	—	6	—	133	3.4	1 (Diph.)
Godalming ...	19	3	—	—	—	22	1.7	—
Guildford R.D. ...	15	10	1	—	—	26	0.8	1 (Septic Pneumonia)
Hambledon R.D..	3	1	—	—	—	4	Not available	
Farnham U.D. ...	8	8	—	—	—	16	—	—
Mytchett ...	1 (Transferred to Aldershot Hospital)							
	148	47	1	6	—	202	—	2

Regarding the admissions from Farnham, these admissions were made at a time when the Farnham Isolation Hospital was over-crowded and unable to deal with them.

The only demand made upon the isolation provision of the Hospital of any special nature during the year was in connection with the admission of a case of erysipelas

from the Guildford Rural District. No demand was made on account of any cases of measles or any other disease, except those previously catered for.

The number of cases admitted during 1937 was very low and it is obvious that this year must be regarded as a trough year, which occurs in a period of years. The last year was in 1932, when there were only 197 cases in hospital, and in 1931 there were 132. Previous to that, 1927 showed only 155 admissions.

Scarlet Fever.—The disease was, on the whole, of a very mild nature and did not occasion any epidemics in any part of the district during the year. In the majority of cases patients only had to be detained in hospital for the minimum period of four weeks, but four cases had otitis media.

One mastoid operation was performed by Mr. Jobson and was quite successful.

There was no cross-infection of any kind during the year, which was extremely satisfactory. The routine administration of anti-toxin to each case was continued and I think that this procedure is justified by the very rapid lowering of temperature occasioned thereby and the rapid restitution of well-being to the patient which results. As practically no complications arose, with the exception of the few cases of otitis above-mentioned, no importance can be placed upon the effect of anti-toxin in this connection. There were, as usual, a certain number of cases who developed a second attack of scarlet fever while in hospital, due as mentioned in previous reports, to infection by a different type of scarlet fever from that one for which the child was admitted. This also was responsible for the occurrence of a few return cases on the return home of patients who seemed clinically perfectly fit in every respect. It seems reasonable to suppose that if an infection is going to run through a household it will do so with the occurrence of the first case. If this does not happen and infection of other members of the household occurs after the return from hospital of the first case, it would seem to indicate that the infection brought home was not the infection carried away. In other words, the child has implanted upon its throat germs of a different type of scarlet fever than the one with which he was originally

infected, and although in the majority of cases he is not suffering from the second infection, yet he is capable of carrying these germs and infecting his family with them. There seems absolutely no means whatever of preventing this occurrence as it is obviously impossible to keep each case of scarlet fever separate from its neighbour and even the provision of convalescent wards fails in this respect, as it is impossible, without typing, to know which type of infection a case belongs. The Pathological Laboratory at the Royal Surrey County Hospital are not able to undertake the work of thus differentiating between the different types of scarlet fever infection as it is a very highly technical bacteriological problem. Under these circumstances there is no means at all of knowing whether a child is suffering from type 1, 2 or 3 of scarlet fever infection and therefore no means of separating types 1 or 2, as clinically they are identical. A most interesting complication arose in that a child of 10 was admitted to hospital with scarlet fever in an advanced stage of uraemia subsequent upon an attack of acute nephritis. This child, after lying for several days unconscious, recovered.

Diphtheria.—There were only 47 cases of diphtheria during the year, but several of these were very seriously ill, and in two laryngeal cases a tracheotomy was successfully performed. These cases, who appeared to be in extremis, fortunately recovered satisfactorily. The convalescence of several of the diphtheria cases was very prolonged owing to the appearance of a diphtheritic paralysis which took a very long time to clear. The majority, however, of the diphtheria cases were very mild and an unusually large number of patients were sent in as suffering from diphtheria when they were found, after admission, not to be so suffering. There were, in all, 21 of these. Most of them were found to be purely cases of tonsillitis, one admitted as laryngeal diphtheria proved to be suffering from pneumonia, and one had influenza. Although it is true that there was an unusually large number of cases sent in which proved not to have the disease, I do not wish to place any hindrance in the way of practitioners sending suspected cases, as it is far better for a child to be found not to be suffering from diphtheria than for the diagnosis of diphtheria to be left until too late. One very interesting case sent in as diphtheria was a visitor to the Guildford Rural District from Letchworth.

He died the day after admission; a post mortem examination revealed the cause of death as septic pneumonia following upon septic tonsillitis. He had apparently come into the district to recuperate from the tonsillitis.

Typhoid.—There were six admissions from the Borough of Guildford, of whom five were found to be suffering from Paratyphoid B. Exhaustive enquiries failed to lead to the source of infection. Samples of water, milk and ice-cream, all of which were taken from the houses, or from the farms supplying the houses in question, proved negative to the typhoid infection, and drainage was in order. The cases were all mild and recovered in a very short time. One child proved to be a carrier, although clinically uninfected.

Deaths.—The two deaths during the year were due, one to severe diphtheria which attacked nearly all the child members of a Guildford family and proved fatal to one. She was admitted in a very advanced stage of the disease and died on the fourth day after admission.

The other was that from septic pneumonia above reported on.

Diagnosis.—As above-mentioned, the number of cases sent in and found not to be suffering from the disease for which they were admitted was very much larger than usual. Numbers were as follows.

From Guildford M.B.—2 cases sent as Scarlet Fever.
10 as Diphtheria.

From Guildford R.D.—6 as Diphtheria.

From Hambledon R.D.—1 as Diphtheria.

From Godalming—1 as Diphtheria.

From Farnham—2 as Diphtheria.

Population, 1937.—The figures for the admissions during the year under the heading proportion per 1,000, were worked upon populations as supplied by the Registrar General for mid-1936. As the figure is not available for the part of the Hambledon Rural District served by the Isolation Hospital, this figure cannot be included. For Farnham, of course, no figure is given as the admissions were only a proportion of the cases which arose in Farnham during the year.

(Signed) F. A. BELAM, Medical Officer.

The following table shows the admissions during the past ten years :—

Year	Guildford M.B.	Godalming M.B.	Guildford R.D.	Hambledon R.D.	Totals
1928	132	37	70	31	304
1929	208	31	112	80	505
1930	35	11	35	18	247
1931	44	17	21	42	182
1932	61	25	53	35	197
1933	90	21	79	41	264
1934	169	27	113	37	508
1935	198	20	79	59	419
1936	254	65	59	35	413
1937	133	22	26	4	202
	1,324	276	647	382	3,241

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply.—The supply during 1937 has been satisfactory, both in regard to quality and quantity.

No form of contamination has been experienced, and no new sources of supply were developed during the year.

The usual quarterly samples taken from Borough Road and Ockford Works supplies by the Health Department, all proved very satisfactory on analysis, as also did those taken at various points of supply in the water area by the Water Engineer. This system ensures an analysis of Godalming water every six weeks throughout the year. A summary of the analyses is given later in the Report.

Constant chlorination of the whole of the supply was carried out as in former years.

Extensions of mains carried out during the year were as follows :—

Within the Borough—1,275 yards (6in., 4in. and 3in. main).

In Guildford Rural District 22 yards of 3in. main.

In Hambledon Rural District—3,679 yards (6in., 4in. and 3in.) main.

Total : 4,976 yards.

Extensions within the Borough and in Guildford Rural District were mainly in connection with housing development by private enterprise, and those in Hambledon Rural District partly for a similar purpose and otherwise to improve the distribution in the Milford Area.

Chemical Analysis.—Results in parts per 100,000 from the eight samples taken, the first four being from Borough Road Supply and the second four from Ockford Works Supply, are as follows:—

Appearance: Clear and bright (all).

Colour: Normal (all).

Odour: Nil (all).

Reaction pH. Neutral: 7.0, 7.0, 7.2, 7.1, 7.8, 7.8, 8, 7.7

Free Carbonic Acid: 1.5, 1.5, 1.8, —, 0.66, 0.66, 0.8, —

Electric Conductivity at 20° C.: 440, 415, 435, 405, 380, 380, 400, 395.

Total Solids at 180° C.: 29.5, 27.5, 29.0, 27.0, 25.5, 25.5, 27.0, 26.0

Chlorine in Chlorides: 2.3, 2.2, 2.4, 2.4, 1.6, 1.5, 1.6, 1.5

Nitrogen as Nitrates: 0.64, 0.72, 0.60, 0.40, —, —, —, —

Nitrites: Absent (all).

Hardness—Permanent: 8.5, 8.5, 8.0, 7.5, 5.0, 4.0, 3.5, 4.0

Do. Temporary: 12.5, 11.5, 12.0, 11.5, 16.0, 16.0, 16.0, 15.0

Total: 21.0, 20.0, 20.0, 19.0, 21.0, 20.0, 19.5, 19.0

Metals—Iron: —, —, —, —, 0.075, 0.085, 0.065, 0.060

Free Ammonia: .0032, .0000, .0008, .0024, .0004, .0068, .0014, .0032

Ammoniacal Nitrogen: Absent (all).

Albuminoid Ammonia: .0014, .0016, .0000, .0008, -, -, -, -

Albuminoid Nitrogen: Absent (all).

Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F.: 0.030, 0.025, 0.015, 0.005, 0.005, 0.005, 0.000, 0.000

No. of bacteria per c.c. or ml.:—

On Agar in 3 days at 20° C.: 3 2 4 8 2 4 3 3

„ „ „ 1 day at 37° C.: 1 0 0 3 0 1 1 2

„ „ „ 2 days at 37° C.: 2 1 1 7 1 2 2 2

Bacillus Coli: Absent (all).

Bacillus Welchii: Absent (all).

Samples from Private Houses.

Bacterial Count per cubic Centimetre on Agar; Incubation period in days.	Borough Road Water			Ockford Water			Borough & Ockford Waters		
	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
Taken from:—									
No. 7 Lower Manor Road, Farncombe ...	0	0	134						
"Cophorne," Oakdene Road, Godalming ...							1	1	81
"Heathercote," Haslemere Road, Milford ...				0	2	110			
"Kerri," Wormley Hill, Witley				7	7	18			
"Glennie," Busbridge Lane, Godalming ...							2	4	4
16 Bridge Street, Godalming	0	3	3						
"Fonthill," Northway, Godalming							1	7	14
"Weylands," Portsmouth Road, Godalming	0	1	2						
"Trusts Cottage," Hydon Ball, Milford ...				0	4	18			
"Tankards," Eashing Lane, Godalming ...							0	1	1
"Dibon Lodge," Knoll Road, Godalming ...	0	1	1						

Bacillus Coli absent in 100 c.c. in all cases.

The Godalming water supply is derived from wells in the green sand and samples taken are invariably reported upon as chemically and bacteriologically extremely pure. Owing to the nature of these wells, human access to them is not possible, so no pollution could arise in that way. As to the gathering grounds, so far as possible, care is taken that no soil contamination takes place, and cess-pools or pail closets are very scarce in the Borough as the appropriate figures show. In any case for twenty years the water supply has been chlorinated, so that any chance pollution is immediately dealt with. Careful watch is kept upon unsatisfactory conservancy outside the Borough boundary whence possible pollution of the water supply might take place, but no such pollution has, in fact, yet been discovered. There is, therefore, nothing at all to cause any anxiety with regard to the town's water supply, and while the Water Engineer pays the close supervision and

care which he always does, any potential pollution, if it arose, would at once be spotted and adequate steps taken to deal with it.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The Town Council during 1937 completed the sewerage of the Minster area, and with few exceptions (which will be converted early in 1938) all houses having cesspools and being within reasonable distance of the new sewers were connected during the year.

In Catteshall Lane, 550 yards of 9in. soil sewer were laid, to replace an old 6in. sewer laid forty years ago as a private drain and now totally inadequate for the needs of the district; the latter being thoroughly cleansed and converted into a surface water sewer.

In connection with the development of the private housing estate at Silo Wood, Farncombe, 430 yards of 9in. and 230 yards of 6in. soil sewers were laid by private enterprise during the period under report.

Rivers and Streams.—No case of pollution of the River Wey, or any streams or ditches leading to it in the Borough, was reported during the year. Close touch is kept by the Sanitary Inspector with the local Inspector of the Thames Conservancy Board, and any cases of suspected pollution is reported to the latter for taking of samples and any other action considered necessary.

Notwithstanding, some suspicion arises from time to time as to pollution of the River Wey and *Bacillus Coli* in 0.5 c.c. was found in samples taken from the Charterhouse bathing place. It was doubtful as to the method in which this contamination gained access to the river, and houses on the bank with cesspool drainage were under suspicion, but nothing definite could be proved. Such contamination is quite usual in rivers, and though undesirable, would probably not prove harmful to bathers unless their water consumption while bathing was above normal, or definite organisms of intestinal disease gained access to the water. No definite illness, definitely traceable to pollution of a bathing place, has been described in recent years, and the flowing water, of course, helps to dilute the infection and spread it rapidly on.

Closet Accommodation.—With the provision of new soil sewers in the area added to the Borough in 1933, considerable progress has been made in the conversion of house drains, from cesspools to the new sewers; 53 cesspools and 20 pail closets being abolished during the year. With the exception of 18 houses at Binscombe (where statutory action had to be taken) these conversions were effected by informal action on the part of the Inspector.

It is anticipated a further 15 properties will be converted to main drainage early in 1938.

The revised numbers of properties unconnected to the sewers at the end of 1937 were as follows:—

Cesspools draining houses—48 (23 no sewers available).

Pail closets attached to cottages—27 (18 no sewers available).

Pail closets attached to workshops—6 (no sewers available).

Since the beginning of 1938, up to June 1st, four of the above-mentioned cesspools have been abolished and connections made to the sewer.

Public Cleansing.—The methods of house and trade refuse collection and disposal remain unaltered. Weekly collections were made from all premises in the Borough, and controlled tipping has been carried out in the low-lying areas in Catteshall Lane, as in former years.

During the year the Sanitary Inspector was able, by informal measures, to effect the abolition of 25 fixed ash-pits to dwelling houses and the substitution, therefor, of 52 portable sanitary dustbins. Only 24 fixed ashpits now remain in the Borough, 12 of which are attached to School houses at Charterhouse. These are well-built and ventilated and their capacities would necessitate the provision of too many bins to render the latter system economical or practicable; they are emptied weekly or more frequently as found necessary.

With the provision of new sewers in the added area, where formerly the Rural District Councils used to empty cesspools, the Town Council ceased this duty during 1937.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

SUMMARY OF ROUTINE AND OTHER INSPECTION WORK CARRIED OUT.

ROUTINE INSPECTIONS MADE.

Ordinary Inspections (including nuisances, complaints, advisory visits, etc.)	591
Housing Inspections (under Public Health and Housing Acts.)	157
Housing Re-Inspections of work in progress, etc.	393
Inspections of:—	
Drainage to Houses, including tests	168
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspections ...	328
Bakehouses	119
Dairies, Cowsheds, Milkshops and Milkstores	67
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces ...	163
Outworkers' Premises (under F. and W. Acts)	19
Foodshops and places where food is stored and prepared	271
Offensive Trades	8
Ashpits and Sanitary Dustbins	267
Rat Infested Premises—Advisory Visits	49
Smoke observations	15
Investigations under:	
Shops Acts	74
Petroleum and Carbide Acts	27
Infectious Diseases Notifications and Prevention Acts (including disinfections) ...	105

Sampling of:—

Water Supplies—Public	...	...	...	11
Private Wells	...	...	...	2
Milk Supplies	...	...	...	24
Total Inspections	...	...	...	2,858

NOTICES SERVED.

Statutory Notices	...	...	47
Informal Notices	...	...	264
Total Notices served	...	...	311
Complied with	...	...	282
Work in Hand	...	...	29

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER
PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING NOTICES.**Drainage.**

Yards paved and drained	...	...	...	14
Soil drains unstopped	...	...	...	6
Soil drains repaired or relaid	...	...	...	9
New soil drains provided	...	...	...	19
Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	19
Surface water drains repaired or renewed	...	...	...	15
Surface water drains unstopped	...	...	...	11
Roof gutters and downpipes repaired	...	...	...	32
Fresh air inlets to drains renewed	...	...	...	2
New sinks provided	...	...	...	24

Water Closets.

New water closets provided complete	...	...	20
Cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	10
Fittings, etc., renewed	...	...	17
Outbuildings repaired and cleansed	...	...	22

Dilapidations.

Ceilings repaired or renewed	...	...	...	15
Ceilings cleansed	...	...	...	109
Rooms stripped and re-papered or distempered	...			111
Ladders cleansed and ventilated	...	...	...	5
Internal painting of woodwork	...	...	...	10
External painting of woodwork	...	...	...	12
Cooking and heating stoves repaired or renewed	...			21
Washing coppers repaired or renewed	...	...		9
Window sashes and casements repaired or renewed				5
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	26
Flooring repaired or renewed	...	...	...	8
Walls reinstated or repaired	...	...	...	3
External doors repaired or renewed	...	...		8
Provision of ventilators to rooms	...	...	...	4

Dampness in Houses.

Houses treated for damp walls	...	...	...	52
Houses treated for dampness in flues, etc.	...	...		44
Dampness remedied around doors and windows	...			15

Miscellaneous.

Houses cleansed throughout	...	...	...	2
Smoke nuisances abated	...	...	...	6
Verminous premises cleared	...	...	...	4
Rat infested premises cleared	...	...	...	4
Animals kept under insanitary conditions	...			3
Sanitary dustbins provided	...	...	...	157
Ashpits abolished	...	...	...	25
Other nuisances and defects	...	...	...	23

Factories and Workshops.

(Information required by the Secretary of State).

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

			Inspection.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories	...	...	36	3	—
Workshops	...	...	116	9	—
Workplaces	...	...	11	2	—
			—	—	—
	Totals	...	163	14	—
			—	—	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES. (Nuisances under the Public Health Acts).

	Defects Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Prosecutions.
Want of Cleanliness	9	9	—	—
Want of ventilation	2	2	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of Floors ...	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances ...	3	3	—	—
Defective Sanitary Accommodation	—	—	—	—
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation	—	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshops Acts:—				
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bake-houses ...	—	—	—	—
Other Offences ...	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	14	14	—	—

SHOPS.

Inspections and re-inspections of Shops were made during the year with regard to the requirements of the Shops Acts, 1912-1934, as to closing and assistants' hours, lighting, ventilation and heating.

No formal notices were served, any infringements coming to the notice of the Inspector being dealt with informally.

Several warnings had to be issued as to contraventions of the provisions for closing hours and assistants' working hours; in every case these were followed up for any repetition of the offence, but further action was not required.

The question of properly ventilating and heating of certain shops still remains a problem in cases where perishable articles of foodstuffs are sold; particularly in the matter of heating. It is extremely difficult to make provision of adequate warmth for the staffs of such establishments, without affecting to some extent the keeping qualities of the goods they sell. Some measure of success has, however, been achieved in some instances, by the provision of facilities for staffs in rear of or adjoining certain shops, which would appear to meet the case.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Three complaints of excessive smoke causing nuisance were received and dealt with during 1937. No further complaints have been received since the necessary action was taken, and the district generally is free from any serious nuisance in this respect.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

Nothing further has been done to complete the swimming pool scheme at Catteshall, since the Council decided, in 1936, to abandon the project owing to excessive cost.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Only three cases of infestation by bed bugs were reported during the year; two in privately owned semi-detached houses and one in a semi-detached Council house.

In the former instance, disinfestation work with a reputable insecticide was carried out by the Health Department at the expense of the owner, and the houses renovated at the same time. As this work was executed towards the close of the year, it is difficult to predict success, but the case will be kept under observation during 1938. The houses were re-inspected on 31st May, 1938 and up to this date no further trouble had been experienced.

As regards the Council house; this was a very slight infestation (a legacy from a former dirty tenant) and with the earnest co-operation of the new tenant and his consequent cleanliness and persistent efforts, no further trouble was reported.

SCHOOLS.

Routine inspection of these is carried out by the County Council School Medical Officers and it is presumed the sanitary conditions and water supply to the premises are satisfactory. The occurrence of statutory nuisance on these premises is the only concern of the Town Council's Officers, and no complaint was made during the year in this respect.

Questions of the health of scholars, prevention of spread of infectious disease, and closure of and exclusion of scholars from schools are also matters for the County Council's Medical Staff.

Notifications of the absence of scholars due to their having contracted, or been in contact with, notifiable infectious diseases, are sent to the Medical Officer of Health by the Head Teachers and the latter are similarly notified by the Medical Officer of Health as soon as notification of a case is received by him from the Medical Practitioners in the Borough.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Byelaws and Regulations:—

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

The position in regard to the number of those existing in the Borough remains unaltered, viz.:—Three licensed and six registered. Of the former, two are licensed

annually on April 1st, and the third is held under a continuous license (to be surrendered should a Public Abattoir be established in the Borough). Those licensed annually are both fairly modern buildings and generally suitable for the purpose, but the third licensed slaughterhouse and the six registered are old and unsuitable and their structure, location and accommodation leave much to be desired. All slaughterhouses are inspected at regular intervals by the Sanitary Inspector under the Byelaws and in connection with his duties as Meat and Food Inspector. He effects, where possible, minor essential improvements, to maintain the premises in a reasonable state of repair and cleanliness.

The Byelaws controlling the storage and removal of offal, limewashing, etc., are generally well observed by the occupiers.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Two Tanneries exist in the Borough and are inspected periodically to ensure compliance with the Byelaws. Both premises are kept in a sanitary condition and generally little fault can be found. Removal of trade refuse to railway stations or farms is effected in covered vans to minimise the possibility of nuisance en route.

One complaint of smells was received during the year, which was found to be due to the burning of sawdust with a heavy oil content.

Action was taken to eliminate this refuse from the furnace. The nuisance is not likely to recur.

Housing.

New Housing.—Although plans were passed for the erection of 130 houses, those actually built during the year numbered 79; all of which were erected by private enterprise; and with few exceptions were intended for sale to prospective owner-occupiers; 27 in Godalming area and 52 in Farncombe.

Building development in the Farncombe area has for some years now been steadily increasing and the Broadwater Recreation Ground, presented to the Town Council

during the year, with the additional portion purchased by them, will provide much needed recreational facilities for the increasing population of this area of the Borough.

Only a few existing privately-owned houses for renting were released by reason of the above-mentioned new housing provision, and the Council's waiting list of applicants for Council houses consequently contained some 88 names at the close of the year. Of these, 45 evidenced genuine claims for a house, and although the number of changes in tenancy was only 36 for the year, it would appear that those on the waiting list with approved claims will be accommodated during 1938, in the 494 houses which the Council possesses.

Overcrowding.—No new cases of overcrowding were detected during the period under review; one case discovered in the survey made in the spring of 1936 has yet to be dealt with. This case presents certain difficulties, and as the number in the family decreased during the year, the Housing Committee is leaving the case in abeyance until suitable accommodation is found.

Under Section 6 (2) of the Housing Act, 1935, a complete Register of the accommodation of all houses up to a rateable value of £25 has been prepared, and to the end of 1937, 1,297 Certificates as to the 'permitted number of persons' have been issued to Owners and Occupiers of such premises, for the requisite entries in Rent Books.

The majority of the information required for this Register was available in the Rating Department, but 142 houses required actual survey by the Inspector, for the necessary details.

Existing Housing.—Although the reconditioning programme carried out a few years ago brought the exceptionally dilapidated cottages in the Borough up to a reasonable standard of fitness, there still remains a fairly large percentage of cottages in the Borough which require constant inspection and supervision by the Sanitary Inspector.

Most of the Housing work during the year was occasioned by such premises, and the Inspector was able, with few exceptions, to have these rendered reasonably fit by informal action.

In one instance the Council took action in default of owner, and carried out the necessary work themselves; making an annual charge on the premises for the recovery of the cost.

Three cottages were voluntarily closed by their owners, on informal action by the Inspector. One remains closed on a written undertaking by the owner to render same in all respects fit for human habitation, should it appear necessary to re-let it. The remaining two cottages which were small three-roomed semi-detached dwellings, have now been converted into one modern dwelling of six rooms, with bathroom, indoor sanitation, etc.

Housing Statistics for the Year 1937.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

1.	By the Town Council	Nil
2.	By other bodies or persons	79

1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

1.	(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	146
	(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	157
2.	(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head No. 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925	12
	(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	12
3.	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
4.	Number of dwelling houses (excluding those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	107

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year Without Service of Formal Notices.

Numbers of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... 95

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs ... 2
2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices :—
 - (a) By Owners ... 2
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts : —

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 30
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices :—
 - (a) By Owners ... 18
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of Owner. 12

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... Nil
2. Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... Nil

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... Nil

2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... Nil

4.—Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding.

- A.—1. Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of the year ... 1
 2. Number of families dwelling therein ... 1
 3. Number of persons dwelling therein ... 9
- B.—1. Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... Nil
- C.—1. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... 1
 2. Number of persons concerned in such cases 10

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.—There were fifteen Retailers, two Producer-Retailers and two Producers on the Borough Registers at the end of 1937.

Graded Milk Licences in force are as follows:—

'Tuberculin Tested,' Bottling Licence	...	1
'Tuberculin Tested,' Dealer's Licence	...	1
Pasteuriser's Licence	... ..	1
'Pasteurised Milk,' Dealers Licences	...	2

Three of the four farms are producing 'Accredited' Milk under licence from the Surrey County Council. Six samples of ungraded milk, two of 'Tuberculin Tested,' ten of 'Pasteurised' and six of 'Accredited' milk were taken during the year from producers and purveyors, and submitted to the Laboratory at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, for examination and report.

Of the ungraded samples, although the counts of bacteria and bacillus coli in four of these were not alarming, only two of the six could be classed as satisfactory samples. These unsatisfactory results were from four different supplies, and the matter was taken up with each retailer concerned for appropriate action.

Both tuberculin tested samples proved satisfactory, also the six samples of accredited milk.

As regards the ten pasteurised samples, these, with three exceptions, passed the statutory tests for bacteria and bacillus coli, also the phosphatase test. The samples in question, from two separate plants, failed to pass the phosphatase test, and after immediate investigation this was found in one instance to be due to faults in the positive holder itself and the timing of the valves of the plant, which resulted in the milk being held for an insufficient time and at an inadequate temperature. A new positive holder was subsequently installed and the defects thereby remedied.

In the second instance, the pasteurising plant was outside the Borough, and after notification of the results of the tests had been sent to the authority concerned, the matter was righted, and further samples found to be satisfactory.

The Inspector regularly visits all registered dairy farms and dairy premises under the various enactments, and no statutory action was found necessary to be taken against any occupier during the year.

Meat.—Systematic visits were made by the Sanitary Inspector to the nine private slaughterhouses (three licensed and six registered) during regular slaughtering hours throughout the year, as often as his other duties would allow. The object of these inspections is to ensure that, as far as practicable, all food animals slaughtered within the Borough are inspected before exposure for sale. Owing to the number of days and hours slaughtering takes place, the scattered position of the slaughterhouses and the numerous other duties he has to perform, it is impossible for the Inspector to deal with more than 60 or 70 per cent. of the total number of animals slaughtered, and only additional inspection staff can alter the position, as the other routine duties increase year by year.

Particulars of number of animals slaughtered and inspected are as follows:—

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	280	31	183	1,448	2,402
Number Inspected	209	19	117	1,013	1,793
All Diseases except Tuberculosis:					
Whole Carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	8	3	1	5	21
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	3.83	15.79	.85	.48	1.17
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	22	5	—	—	51
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis	10.52	26.31	0.00	0.00	2.84

Apart from a quantity of ox and pigs' heads and tongues and various organs found affected with disease and destroyed, the meat inspected during the year was of good quality and free from any generalised disease.

A quantity of tinned beef, ham and pork was condemned and destroyed as unfit for human consumption.

No infringement of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, was detected, and the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, requiring the humane slaughter of animals, is strictly observed in local slaughterhouses.

Other Foods.—Thirteen bakehouses remain in the Borough, eight of which are factory bakehouses. All of these, except four, are ancient and unsuited to modern requirements in food preparation.

However, the occupiers maintain them in a reasonable state of cleanliness and repair and the various requirements of the Factory and Workshops Acts are generally well observed.

These, with restaurant kitchens, fish shops, cooked meat shops, etc., are inspected as time will allow, for detection of any insanitary or otherwise undesirable conditions.

Refuse from them is removed weekly by the Town Council free of charge, or more frequently on payment of cost of removal.

All foodstuffs, carcasses, etc., found unfit for food is destroyed at Unstaed Sewage Farm, under supervision.

Adulteration and Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

The County Council administers the Sale of Food and Drugs Act within the Borough and carries out the necessary sampling and analysis. The Report upon the work carried out in Godalming during 1937 from the County Medical Officer is as follows:—55 samples in all were taken, of which 39 were formal and 16 informal. Six samples were found adulterated, four of which were milk and two assorted fruits.

The number of samples taken was as follows:—

Milk, 33 (30 formal and 3 informal), four formal samples of spirits, three samples of sultanas (two formal and one informal), two informal samples of cream ice, two samples (one formal and one informal) of assorted fruits. One formal sample of ground almonds and mixed peel and one informal sample of each of the following:—Butter, meat, cocoa, confectionery, iced cake, English new-laid eggs, bread, vinegar, sweetmeats.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and Other Diseases.

The incidence of infectious disease as evidenced by the notifications received was extremely small. In the Schools the only disease really causing much trouble was whooping cough which affected the younger children at Farncombe and the Godalming Infants' Schools. The total notifications from teachers were, however, not large except for this disease. These were as under :

Disease	Totals	Central	Godalming		Farncombe C. of E. Infants	Busb'ge
			Council Bridge Rd. Jun Mixed Infants	C. of E. Moss Lane Girls & Infants		
Scarlet Fever	6	—	—	—	5	1
Chickenpox ...	32	—	10	—	20	2
Whooping Cough	67	1	16	9	41	—
Diphtheria ...	1	—	—	—	1	—
Measles ...	1	—	1	—	—	—
Ringworm ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Conjunctivitis	4	—	4	—	—	—
Totals ...	112	1	31	9	67	4

The tables indicate that the total number of infectious disease cases notified from the schools was less than half that of 1936. The fall was chiefly in cases of scarlet fever, which fell from 49 in 1936, to 6 in 1937, and measles from 210 to 1, while whooping cough rose from 3 to 67 and chickenpox from 4 to 32. This merely indicates the periodic rise and fall of the incidence of these diseases.

Scarlet Fever.—There were only 24 cases of this disease notified during the year. Of these, three were adults and three children under five. Seven children went to private schools, three coming at the same time from one, and two at the same time from another. Of the remainder,

two attended Farncombe Council School in St. John Street, four the Infants' School in George Road, Farncombe, and one Moss Lane School. There was no epidemic of the disease and cases were scattered except for the connections just noted. The disease was mild, and complications practically absent.

Diphtheria.—Only three notifications were received of this disease, and one case proved not to be so affected after admission to hospital. The child who died from Diphtheria had not been notified and was from the County Hospital.

Diphtheria Immunisation has been continued at the Elementary Schools and Clinics by the medical officers of the Surrey County Council, and the Report kindly sent me by Dr. Godber of the work done in 1937, is as follows:—

538 children were inoculated; 466 were Schick tested—of these, 26 or 5.6 per cent. were positive reactors, 72 had not yet been Schick tested. Age groups were:—

10 or over, 79; 5 to 9 years, 351; 1 to 4 years, 105;

other school children, 3.

The results so far obtained are that 32.5 per cent. of all children at Godalming Elementary schools have been inoculated; of these, 51.7 per cent. was the percentage of all children aged 5 to 9 and 17.2 per cent. of these aged 1 to 4. The method used was one injection of .5 c.c. Alum Precipitated Toxoid to children under 10 years, and two injections of .2 c.c. and .4 c.c. to older children. This covers nine months' work and is quite a satisfactory result.

As regards other notifiable diseases very few notifications were received: These being:—Pneumonia 3, Erysipelas 1, Ophthalmia Neonatorum 1 and Paratyphoid 1. The last was a child in the Royal Surrey County Hospital under treatment, who was found to be infected with paratyphoid B and was removed to the Isolation Hospital, where, though mild clinically, the infection took some time to clear.

**Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)
during the year 1937.**

Disease.			Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	24	19	—
Diphtheria	...	...	3	4	1
Enteric Fever	...	...	1	1	—
Pneumonia	...	...	3	7	9
Erysipelas	...	...	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	1	—	—

Of Pneumonia deaths, only four were due to lobar infection, of which one was notified. The others were broncho pneumonia, not notifiable.

Age Groups of Notified Cases.

Age	Scarlet Fever	Diph.	Enteric	Pneumonia	Erysipelas
2—3	1	—	—	—	—
3—4	1	—	—	—	—
4—5	—	1	—	—	—
5—10	12	—	1	1	—
10—15	6	1	—	—	—
15—20	1	—	—	—	—
20—35	1	1	—	—	—
35—45	2	—	—	2	—
45—65	—	—	—	—	1

Tuberculosis.—Ten cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1937. Of these, six were males and four females. Five cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified and of these, two were males and three females.

In addition to the above five cases of pulmonary, one male and four females and two females with non-pulmonary tuberculosis moved into the district. At the end of the year there were 26 males and 28 females on register suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 10 males and 14 females with non-pulmonary tuberculosis. This is unfortunately a further increase upon the figures of 1936.

There were five males and 2 females who died from pulmonary, and 1 female from non-pulmonary tuberculosis in 1937; of these, 6 had been previously notified. Of the two not previously notified one died from miliary tuberculosis in the County Hospital death being from pulmonary embolism due to femoral thrombosis; tuberculosis being found after death, and the other in Hambledon Infirmary, the actual cause of death being broncho-pneumonia with pulmonary tuberculosis found on post-mortem examination. Notification was, therefore, satisfactory, although in some instances only affected a short time before death.

Tuberculosis.—New Cases and Mortality during 1937.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary.		Non-		Pulmonary.		Non-	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
5—10	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	1	2	—	1	1	—	—	—
25—35	1	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
35—45	2	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
45—55	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55—65	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & over—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1

